AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-8. (cancelled)

9. (previously presented) A process for producing an oxygen-absorbing package, which comprises:

(a) producing an oxygen-absorbing composition comprising a granular iron powder as an effective component which contains fine iron powder passing through a 200-mesh standard sieve in an amount of 5% by weight or less by removing the fine iron powder; and

(b) packaging the oxygen-absorbing composition in an air-permeable packaging material using a three-sided automatic filling-packaging machine of rotary filling type in a high productivity of at least several hundred packages per minute.

10. (previously presented) The process according to claim 9, wherein the iron powder is a sponge iron powder.

11. (previously presented) The process according to claim 9, wherein the granular iron powder is a coated iron powder prepared by coating an iron powder with

an electrolyte in an amount of 0.1 to 10% by weight based on the weight of the iron powder.

12. (previously presented) The process according to claim 11, wherein said coated iron powder is produced by first coating iron powder and then removing the fine iron powder.

13. (previously presented) The process according to claim 11, wherein said coated iron powder is produced by first removing fine iron powder, leaving remaining iron powder, and then coating the remaining iron powder.

14. (previously presented) The process according to claim 13, wherein said coated iron powder is produced by further removing fine iron powder again, after the coating.

15. (cancelled)

16. (previously presented) The process according to claim 9, wherein the removal of the fine iron powder is conducted by screening or separation method utilizing gravity or centrifugal force.

17. (previously presented) The process according to claim 9, wherein amount of the iron powder attached to an outer surface of the oxygen-absorbing package is 0.5 mg/m^2 or less with respect to a surface area of the oxygen-absorbing package.

18. (previously presented) The process according to claim 9, wherein said granular iron powder contains fine iron powder passing through a 200-mesh standard sieve in an amount of 3% by weight or less.

19. (previously presented) The process according to claim 9, wherein average particle size of the granular iron powder is 100 to 250 μm.

20. (previously presented) The process according to claim 9, wherein the granular iron powder includes at most 3% by weight coarse iron powder having a diameter larger than 500 μm.

21. (cancelled)

22. (cancelled)

23. (new) The process according to claim 9, wherein said high productivity of said three-sided automatic filling-packaging machine of rotary filling type is in a range of several hundred packages up to 1000 packages per minute.

24. (new) The process according to claim 23, wherein said high productivity is in a range of 400-1000 packages per minute.

25. (new) The process according to claim 9, in which said packaging is performed, using said three-sided automatic filling-packaging machine, by bag-making, metering and filling operations performed arranged around an axis of rotation.

26. (new) The process according to claim 25, wherein amount of the iron powder attached to an outer surface of the oxygen-absorbing package is 0.5 mg/m^2 or less with respect to a surface area of the oxygen-absorbing package.

27. (new) The process according to claim 26, wherein said high productivity of said three-sided automatic filling-packaging machine of rotary filling type is in a range of several hundred packages up to 1000 packages per minute.

28. (new) The process according to claim 27, wherein said high productivity is in a range of 400-1000 packages per minute.